



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020

Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:

§ 2-1-146 - HISPANIC/LATINO QUALITY OF LIFE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION.

(A) The Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission should have a balanced membership reflecting in-depth knowledge of the challenges and concerns of the Hispanic/Latino community. The City Council should appoint persons who are representative of or sensitive to the needs of the Hispanic/Latino community in the City of Austin.

(B) The commission shall advise the City Council on issues relating to the quality of life for the City's Hispanic/Latino community and shall recommend programs and policies designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront Hispanics and Latinos in social, economic, and vocational pursuits including education, youth services, housing and community development, cultural arts, economic development, health, civic engagement, and transportation.

- 1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

The Commission received staff and community briefings and provided feedback from various departments on issues including Parks and Recreation Department Our Parks, Our Future Long Range Plan, Austin Fire Department response times in Districts 1-4 and de-escalation training, Waterloo Greenway project and programming, Family Independence Initiative, Community Health Initiative with Youth in Del Valle and Montopolis by the UT School of Public Health and Austin Public Health, PODER and

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the land development code re-write, United Way for Greater Austin Census 2020 and Latinx communities, American Gateways immigration legal services, Success by 6 and early childhood, Housing Authority City of Austin, Land Development Code Team, Planning and Zoning Department and the Waller Creek/Palm District Planning Initiative, Office of Police Oversight, Equity Office, and Austin Public Health update regarding COVID-19.

Members of the Commission provided representation in regular meetings regarding the Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC). Commissioners Maria Solis and Chair Amanda Afifi participated in the regularly scheduled JIC meetings.

Chair Afifi and Commissioner Solis also represented the Commission in the group Quality of Life Commission / Equity Budgeting Sessions and meetings, contributing to joint recommendations made. Other commission members also attended these sessions. Commissioners provided feedback regarding the evolving budget process.

The Commission held a special called meeting on November 16 at the Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center. Mayor Pro Tem Garza gave opening remarks, and Mayor Adler stopped by the event to listen to concerned citizens. Several community members spoke during Citizen's Communication regarding concerns with the Austin Police Department. Texas Here to Stay Coalition, Grassroots Leadership, and Austin Justice Coalition provided community briefings. The Austin Police Department and the Office of Police Oversight provided staff briefings. Robert's Rules of Order were waived and a community conversation was held leading to several questions regarding APD's presentation, use of excessive force, disproportionality regarding stops and arrests, etc., as well as allegations of racism, homophobia, and sexism.

The Commission held our own community budget engagement session on January 25th at the South Austin Recreation Center. Robert's Rules of Order were waived and a community conversation was held leading to several formal budget recommendations.

In March 2020, the Commission made the following FY2021 budget recommendations, related to the issue areas in the H/LQoL Initiative:

- Budget Recommendation 1: Commissioner Vigil moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend the allocation of funding to update the H/LQOL report and evaluate how many of the recommendations from the old report were implemented. Commissioner Peña seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Budget Recommendation 2: Commissioner Ayala moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating funding and resources to make the Homeless Outreach Street Team (HOST) more robust. Commissioner Garcia seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Budget Recommendation 3: Vice Chair Erazo moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating \$50K towards the Small and Minority Business Resources Division for professional development for vendors interested in

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- becoming certified. This could also include funding for a small business incubator. Commissioner Ayala seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Budget Recommendation 4: Commissioner Peña moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend providing direct financial assistance to individuals and families who need it the most. Commissioner Garay seconded. Commissioner Vigil and Vice Chair Erazo abstained. Motion passed.
 - Budget Recommendation 5: Vice Chair Erazo moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend expanding mental health services for the Latinx community, including LGBTQIA+ communities, veterans, youth, families, and survivors of abuse. Commissioner Solis seconded. Commissioner Vigil abstained. Motion passed.
 - Budget Recommendation 6: Commissioner Garay moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend expanding tenants' rights support, including through legal services. Commissioner Zuniga seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Budget Recommendation 7: Commissioner Zuniga moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating greater funding for immigrant services and legal services. Part of this recommendation would include the allocation of funding to build out the Immigrant Affairs position/office. Commissioner Garay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Budget Recommendation 8: Commissioner Garcia moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating funding for fostering financial stability in a holistic way, including but not limited to financial education, to those most directly impacted. Commissioner Ayala seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Budget Recommendation 9: Commissioner Solis moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend investing in Early Childhood Education and Development for Latinx families, including education for parents. Part of this recommendation would include allocating a staff position in Austin Public Health to focus exclusively on this. Vice Chair Erazo seconded. Commissioner Vigil abstained. Motion passed.
 - Budget Recommendation 10: Commissioner Garay moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating increased funding to the Office of Police Oversight. Commissioner Vigil seconded. Vice Chair Erazo abstained. Motion passed.
 - Budget Recommendation 11: Commissioner Vigil moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating funding for the construction of sidewalks, bus shelters, and lighting in areas where many Latinx communities and low-income communities live and commute. Vice Chair Erazo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Budget Recommendation 12: Chair Afifi moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend using data from the Workforce Development Audit of 2017 to explain the need to address disparities in outcomes in current contracts and highlight inefficiencies in the current funding stream. Commissioner Peña seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Budget Recommendation 13: Vice Chair Erazo moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend allocating funding to affordable housing, specifically

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centering residents at 30%-40% MFI and below. Commissioner Garay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- Budget Recommendation 14: Commissioner Peña moved to allow the Budget Work Group to recommend increasing the Equity Mini-Grant fund by \$250K. Commissioner Vigil seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission made the following recommendations between 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020:

Related to quality of life for the City's Hispanic/Latino community:

- Recommendation - 20191217-007b: Support of Human Rights Commission Recommendation on Race and Equity within AISD School Closures and Consolidations Plan was approved with a motion to adopt by Vice Chair Erazo and a second by Commissioner Garay.
- Recommendation - 20191217-007d: Disparate Impact Analysis of the LDC Revision and Community Engagement Plan was approved with a motion to adopt by Vice Chair Erazo and a second by Commissioner Garcia.
- Recommendation - 20200527-3a: Support of Community Letter Regarding Austin Independent School District's Superintendent Search and the District's Commitment to Equity was approved with a motion by Vice Chair Erazo and a second by Commissioner Garay.
- Recommendation - 20200624-004a: John Trevino Park Master Plan was approved with a motion by Vice Chair Erazo and a second by Commissioner Zuniga.

Related to COVID-19 Response:

- Recommendation - 20200410-003a related to mobile testing and social services was approved with amendments with a motion by Vice Chair Erazo and a second by Commissioner Flay.
- Recommendation - 20200410-3a related to small and minority business aid was approved with a motion by Commissioner Zuniga and a second by Vice Chair Erazo.
- Recommendation - 20200527-003c: Covid-19 and Disparate Impacts for Latinx and other People of Color in Austin was approved with a motion by Vice Chair Erazo to approve the recommendations and allow Commissioner Garay and the Public Health Work Group to take the lead in combining the proposed recommendations into one recommendation for submission to Council and a second by Commission Vigil.

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

The actions of the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission comply with its mission statement.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

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- Ensure recommendations and decisions have equitable outcomes for all members of the Hispanic/Latino community
- Co-create more equitable policies, developed alongside fellow Quality of Life Commissions and Joint Inclusion Committee representatives
- Ensure more community members can provide direct input in a variety of ways to the Commission regarding budget needs
- Identify a goal(s) for each working group and implement a plan to address the goal(s)
- Continue to collaborate with agencies, non-profits, service providers, the City of Austin, the faith community and others to eliminate the disparities and increase the number of preventive measures in the Hispanic/Latino community